

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the claims as originally-filed.

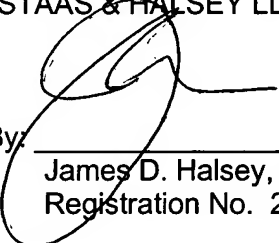
It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3/12

By:   
James D. Halsey, Jr.  
Registration No. 22,729

700 Eleventh Street, NW, Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 434-1500



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND the following claims:

3. A variable polarization plane rotator according to claim 1, further comprising a reflecting plate for reflecting light,

wherein said variable polarization plane rotator has a reflection type construction in which said input light beam output from an input side optical path is transmitted through said phase plate and said phase difference variable element in succession, to be reflected by said reflecting plate, and again transmitted through said phase difference variable element and said phase plate in succession, to be input to an output side optical path.